

(1)

The true Speeches of COLLONEL

JOHN PENRUDDUCK,
AND
HUGH GROVE:

*Delivered on the Scaffold at Exeter
Castle, May the 17.th, 1655.*

Wretched Man that I am ; who shall deliver
me from this body of Death ?

VV
Gentlemen, it hath been the custome of
all Prisoners, when they come to Dye, to
discharge themselves, in order, to the satis-
faction of the World ; whether, they are
guilty of the Fact, they stand charged of, or no ? The crime
for which I am to Dye ; it is high Treason (as they say.)
I must confesse I was at *South-molton* in this County : But
whether my being there, or my actions there, doe amount to
so high a crime, as high Treason : I leave to the world to
judge ? If I were guilty to my Self, of any base end, I had in
these my Undertakings ; J would not be so injurious to my
owne soule, or so dis-ingenuous to you, as, not to make a pub-
like acknowledgmeat thereof : I believe, divers persons, as
they are byas'd by their severall Interests, and relations, will
A give

give their opinions to the world concerning me : As it is
 therefore as impossible to expresse my self in these particulars,
 as not to expole, both my judgement, and reputation to others,
 without a breach of charity concerning my self, or my Acti-
 ons : I thought fit, to decline all discourses, which may give
 them, a capacity ; either to injure my Self, or my cause : My
 tryall was Publike, Honourable, and eminent ? My severall
 Examinations (I beleevé) will be produc'd when I am in the
 Grave : I will referre you therefore to my first Tryall, which
 (I am sure) some of you, in good time may see : Had Captain
Crooke done himselfe, and us, that right which a Gentleman
 and a Souldier ought to have done ; I had now enjoyed my
 owne, and not been heere this Day : I forgive the man with all
 my heart ; But truly, He did us an injury by infercing those
 Articles upon us, when his owne Conscience told him, he had
 no intention to performe them : And indeed (his protesting a-
 gainst those Articles) which He himselfe with so many Prote-
 stations had forced upon us, hath drawne so much dishonour,
 and blood, upon his head, that (I feare) some heauey judge-
 ment will pursue him, 'cause He hath been so false to Us : I
 pray God I prove not a true Prophet to him ; yet, I am glad
 that some of our Party, have enjoyed the benefit of his Arti-
 cles ; though I my selfe were deprived of them : Yet I drew
 them with my owne hand : This I'll say for the honour of my
 Souldiers ; that they have been so farre from breaking any Ar-
 ticles given to others ; that they have rather bettered them, then
 otherwise. But I will not load the Protector with this disho-
 nour ; For, I have heard He would have made our Condi-
 tions good, if *Crooke* that gave them had not abjured them :
 But this is not a time for me to enlarge my Self upon any sub-
 ject, when I (my selfe) am become the subject of Death :
 But whereas I said, I drew them with my owne hand ; I
 thought I was obliged to a particuler vindication of them.
 I could tell you of some of *Crookes* Souldiers, that were turn'd
 out

out of his Troope, for defending those Conditions of ours; but let that passe: But howsoever hence-forward, in stead of Life, Liberty, and Estate, which wee should have had, by our Articles; let Hanging, Drawing, and Quartering, be the denomination of Captaine *Crookes* Articles. However, I thanke the Protector that hee hath indulged me so farre, as to let me have the Honour, as to have my Head severed from my Body.

I should now, (Gentlemen) give you an accompt of my Faith; But this Nation is rent into so many severall Opinions, that it is impossible, for me to give you mine owne, without displeasing some, or others of you; yet, if any be so criticall, as, to inquire of what Faith I dyed: It is the same of the Apostles, and *Athanasius* Creed, without which no man can bee saved: I have subscribed, and doe owne the 39. Articles of the Church of *England*: If this will not satisfie them; I referre them to the reverend Dr. *Short*, to whom I have unbo-som'd my selfe, as, to the particulers of my Religion.

And now (Gentlemen) having given you accompt of my Selfe: I hold my self oblig'd, to give you some accompt (too) of my Friends (I meane) as, to some persons of Honour; who upon my Examination I was charg'd to have correspondency with, (concerning this business:) The Lord Marquis of *Hartford*; the Marquis of *Winchester*; the Lord of *Pembroke*: These were the Persons denominated to me, whom I did then acquit, and doe now second it, with this Protestation, that I had never any correspondence with either of them, in relation to this particuler Business, or any other that concernes the Protector, or his Government: As for the Marquis of *Winton*, I saw him Twelve yeares agoe, and not since; and if I should see him heere presently, I should not know him: As for the Lord of *Pembroke*, he was not a man likely to whom I should discover my thoughts; because I never knew how hee stood affected: I was likewise Examined concerning my Cousin

Frenke, my Cousin *Hastings*, and my Cousin *Dallington*; they are men of great Estates (I confesse) which may make them lyable to this Inquisition, and endeavour, to be brought into my condition: but J doe so farre acquit them, that I give the world this further Protestation of them, that as farre as I know, I am confident, They are as innocent as any Child here.

I have no more to say, but that I am in Charity with all men; and I thanke God I can forgive my greatest Persecuters; and can goe upon my bare knees to my greatest Enemies to forgive them: and I forgive all those, that had any hand in my Death: I have offered the Protector as good Security for my future demeanor, as I suppose hee could have expected; if hee had thought fit to have given me my Life; certainly I should not have been so ungratefull as to have employed it against him. But I submit to Gods pleasure, knowing that the issues of Life and Death are in the hands of God.

My blood is but a small Sacrifice; if it had been saved, I am so much a Gentleman, as to have given him thanks, that had preserved it: and I am so much a Christian, as to forgive him, that takes it away.

But since God by his providence hath called me, to lay down my Life; I doe heartily submit to his will: Death is a debt, a due Debt, owing by all; it is terrible to Nature, but I looke on it without terrour. It hath pleased God to make me a good husband, to pay this Debt before my due.

Gentlemen, I am not ashamed of the Cause for which I dye: and I hope none of my alliance or Friends will ever be ashamed of it: J doe not looke upon it as a pulling downe of my Family, but as the raising of it, a story higher: yet J was not, so prodigall as to throw away my Life; for I used, all, yet none, but honest, and Honourable meanes to preserve it: but these unhappie times have been very fatall to my Family; two of my Brothers have been already slaine, and I my selfe am now going to the slaughter.

It is Gods will, and J doe submit to that Providence : I must render an acknowledgment of the great civilities I received from the City of *Exon*, and from some Persons of quality, for that plentiful provision made for the Prisoners : I thanke this noble Sheriffe, for his many favours, and curtesies towards us ; and in particuler to my selfe ; and I desire the Sheriffe to present my due respects to the Protector, that, though hee had no mercy upon me (my selfe) yet, that, hee would be pleas'd to have some, towards my Family.

As for this businesse I now Dye for ? I looke upon it, as an *Individuum vagum* : J know not how, they asserit this to be Treason, unlesse they make it, to bee like the Wind in the Gospell, *To blow where it listeth* ; I know not, to what end, this may come ; but I pray God, that my blood, and my Brothers, (that is to Suffer heere with me) may be the last.

I am now putting off my cloathes to fight a duell with Death ; for, (I conceive) no other Duels to bee lawfull ? But my Saviour hath pulled out the Sting of this my enemy, hee hath made himselfe a Sacrifice for mee ; I doe not accompt that Man worthy of one drop of his Blood, that will not spend all for him in a good cause : As I now put off these garments of Cloath, so I hope I have put off my garments of Sin, and have put on the robes of CHRIST's Righteousnesse, which will bring mee to his glorious Robes, anon.

I desire to see the Axe, and hee kissed it ; and said, I am like to have a sharpe passage of it ; but my Saviour hath taken away the Ring ? and I hope hee will sweeten it unto me.

Thus I commit my soule to God my Creator and Redeemer : O Lord looke upon me in my last gasping ! O Lord *Jesus Christ*, have mercy upon me, and heare my Prayers ! and the prayers of all good People for me. J will close up all with praying for the King, and his restoration, —

I thanke thee O God, for all thy dispensations towards me :
*Glory be to God on high ; On earth Peace ; goodwill towards
 Men.*

Gentlemen, if I would have been so unworthy, as others
 have beene, I might for a Lye, have saved my Life ? But I
 scorn to purchase it at such a rate ? But deny all such temp-
 tations, and those that offer the m.

RIN.



Mr. Hven

Thus I commend my selfe to God my Father and Redeemer :
 O Lord look upon me in my last gasping ! O Lord hear
 Cries, have mercy upon me, and heare my Prayers ! and the
 prayers of all good People for me. I will close up all with
 praying for the King, and his restoration. —

I thanke

Mr. HUGH GROVES Speech on

the Scaffold, at the same time and

place



Ood People ? J was never guilty of much Rethorick ? Nor ever loved long Speeches in my life ; Therefore you cannot expect either of them at my Death : All that I shall desire of you, besides your hearty Prayers for my Soule ; is, that you would beare me witnesse, that J dye, a true Sonne of the Church of England, as it was established, by King *Edward* the 6.th, Queen *Elizabeth*, King *James*, and King *Charles*, of ever blessed memory ? And that I dye a Loyall subject to King *Charles* the 2. my undoubted Sovereigne, and a lover of good old Lawes of the land ? The just priviledges of Parliament ? The rights and liberties of the People. For the re-establishing of all which, I undertooke this Designe ? and for which, I am now ready to lay downe my life : God forgive the Iudges and Councell, for perverting the Law ? And God forgive the bloody minded Iury, and all those, that procured them ? God forgive *Crooke*, for denying and forswearing his Articles, so unworthily ? And God forgive Mr. *Dove*, and the rest for swearing so falsly, and maliciously against me ? And God forgive all mine Enemies ; for I heartily forgive them.

Now

Now God bleſſe the King, and all thoſe that love
him ; and turne the hearts, of all thoſe that hate him :
God bleſſe you all : And God bee mercifull unto
you ; and to my Soule, Amen.

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After of them as my Death : A
that I ſhall ſerve of you, be-
lieve your hearty Prayers for my
Soule ; is that you would bear
me witness, that I dye, a true ſonne of the Church
of England, as it was eſtabliſhed by King Edward
the ſixth, Queen Elizabeth, King James, and King
Charles the firſt, my ſovereigns, and that I doe
I ſhall beſeech to King Charles the firſt, my undoubted
ſovereign, and a ſon of your old Lawes of the
land, the juſt privileges of Parliament, the
rights and liberties of the People. For the reſta-
bliſhing of all which, I undertooke this Deſigne,
and for which, I am now ready to lay downe my
life : God forgive the fault, and Conſcience, for
perverting the Law, And God forgive the bloody
minded Iury, and all thoſe that perſecuted them,
God forgive Greece, for denying and ſpoiling his
Articles to unworthily : And God forgive Mr.
Dove, and the reſt for ſwearing to falſe, and malicious
only againſt me : And God forgive all mine En-
mies ; for I heartily forgive them.

Now